



Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen

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To: Gravel Work Group
From: Stu Marckoon
Re: Issues List
Date: May 29, 2014

At the May 15, 2014 meeting I offered to do up a summary of the discussion this group has conducted since meeting in February. This is an attempt to group similar items together for a possible action plan to be submitted to the Selectmen this summer.

The group met on February 27, March 20, April 17, May 1 and May 15.

Setbacks

- Possible grandfathering of previously approved setbacks for existing pits
- Setbacks from natural resources need better definition
- Possibly mirroring the DEP setback requirements in the ordinance

Restoration & Reclamation

- Create a policy at the Select Board/Planning Board level for acceptance and distribution of restoration funds paid to the town per cubic yard of material involved.
- Create an incentive to restore more excavated area – have less “open” areas.
- Possibly do away with restoration funds as the amount in the ordinance (\$.05/cy) doesn't necessarily match actual restoration costs.
- Require restoration to be complete before Planning Board renews permit.

Water Quality & Separation

- Determine what the number of water quality monitoring wells should be and how frequently water quality tests should be conducted.
- Better define the water quality test parameters.
- Determine the number and type of separation wells per pit size (whether to 5-foot depth or groundwater depth).

Permitting Process

- Creation of a streamlined renewal process for operations that have received an initial permit
- Determine the information required for new gravel applications that would not be necessary on renewals.
- Creation of an expansion application process or determine whether it falls under a new or renewed permit process.
- Better define what is permitted to be excavated and what is required if the excavation area should change within the permitted acreage.

I think these hit the high points of the discussion. If I have forgotten anything, please bring it up at June 5, 2014 meeting.